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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6633

BILL NUMBER: SB 326

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 22, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: School Board Elections.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Banks

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires that school board members who are selected by election must be nominated as candidates of political parties at primary elections and elected at general elections beginning in 2012. The bill repeals provisions related to the election of school board members on a nonpartisan basis at primary elections.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary-* County election boards would receive and process fewer petitions of nomination but more declarations of candidacy as a result of the bill. The impact of this change in school board candidate paperwork on local expenditures should be slight. However, the impact of this change on election board staff time is indeterminable and would depend on the number of candidates running.

Ballots- Counties with school boards currently elected in the primary would, in addition, place the nominees winning the primary on the general election ballot. Counties with school boards currently elected at the general election would have to put all candidates on the primary ballot. Ballot card printing expenditures in counties with ballot card voting systems could increase as ballots would be longer during both the primary and general elections.

The impact would depend on the individual length of the ballots and the number of candidates (for primary) and nominees (for general) run during a given election cycle. Ballots for ballot card voting systems cost approximately \$0.32 per card. County election boards in counties that operate a DRE voting system should be able to reprogram a primary and general election ballot, reflecting the proposed changes, with minimal increases in administrative time.

For the primary, the bill would require school board candidates to be placed before the offices of precinct committeemen and party state convention delegates. School board nominees would be the last elected office on the general election ballot.

Background: Out of 288 school boards responding to a Department of Education survey during school year 2009-2010, 195 school boards are elected at primary and 78 are elected at general elections.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Counties with elected school boards.

Information Sources: Department of Education.

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